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WA parking brake in a vehicle. The parking brake is automatically activated independent of at least one specified operating mode of the motor vehicle, which is started with a mechanical ignition key. Such an operating state can include, e.g., falling short of a certain vehicle speed threshold, the position of the ignition key in the lock, and/or the state of the vehicle door (open/closed). At the latest, upon removing the ignition key from the lock, however, the parking brake is activated.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following:

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B37 [0013] In accordance with a second possibility, based on which the motor vehicle can be started with an electronic authorization verification device with a wireless code transmission, the arbitrary prevention of the automatic activation of the parking brake can be triggered by inserting the authorization verification device in a holding shaft 18 provided for this purpose. For example, a switch is indirectly manually actuated when the authorization verification device is inserted in the holding shaft (card insert) 18. Such an authorization verification device can be a magnetic card 19, for example. A holding shaft that is already provided for another module can be used, for example. In the case of an authorization verification device in accordance with German Patent document DE 198 23 707 A1, the authorization verification device, e.g., in the form of a magnetic card, can be inserted into the shaft of the device to hold additional memory after prior removal. Such an electronic "key", e.g., in the form of a

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magnetic card, a transponder or additional memory, must, therefore, be stored at a specified location on the vehicle. This function also corresponds to leaving the key in the ignition.

(A copy of the marked-up version of the specification as amended is attached to this Reply).

(Applicants' remarks are set forth herein below starting on the following page).